

HOME NEWS

Schools Green Paper rewritten after a rejection by Cabinet

By Diana Geddes

Education Correspondent

After at least half a dozen redraftings the Green Paper on schools in England and Wales, submitted by Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, was rejected by the Cabinet.

It is believed to be the first Cabinet rejection of a Green Paper. It was felt to be impractical, too tentative, lacking in coherence and style, over-long, and tactically unsuitable.

Mrs Williams, who was told to take the Green Paper back to her department, took it largely upon herself to rewrite it with the help of a senior official. On Thursday a shorter, final version was completed and is now with the printers. It is expected to be ready to be published, only slightly behind schedule, during the week after next.

The Cabinet's objection to the original "final" version was not on the ground of policy—there is very little new policy contained in the document—but mainly on aesthetic and tactical grounds. It wanted a bolder approach, the line believed to

be favoured by Mr James Hamilton, the Permanent Secretary, and not so much of the kid-gloved, almost deliberately obfuscatory approach favoured by Mrs Williams.

So many ministerial and official hands had been at the document by the time that it went to the Cabinet's home affairs committee, that it resembled, in the words of one Whitehall source, "more of a dog's dinner than a good rich broth".

It did, however, manage to pass the home affairs committee, chaired by Mr Rees, the Home Secretary, but the Cabinet, which was chaired by the Prime Minister, found it too much to stomach.

Mr Callaghan, who initiated the "great debate" on education with his speech at Ruskin College, Oxford, last October, has been asking a close interest in the progress of the consultative document which has emerged as a result of the debate, bearing in mind too, no doubt, that it could prove to be the foundation of an Education Act to replace that of 1944.

Direct elections storm gathers momentum

By Michael Hatfield

Labour's gathering storm over direct elections to the European Parliament will be further clouded next week when party policy-makers discuss a document highly critical of the European Community.

Although the document has not yet been approved by the full national executive committee, there is little doubt that the left-dominated NEC will sanction its contents and a subsequent debate at the party's annual conference in October.

Faced with the Government's determination over the direct elections Bill, the document states that nothing should be done to increase the powers of the European Assembly. It argues that the Labour Party must ensure that clauses expressly preventing any increase in the powers of the European Assembly are written into any legislation authorizing direct elections.

The main objective of the opponents of the EEC, who yesterday expressed delight at the size of their vote in the Commons debate on Thursday, is to get a "red line" drawn at the annual conference protesting at the operation of the European Community and all that flows from it.

Incorporated in the draft document, which goes before a joint meeting of the party's home and international committees on Wednesday, is the demand that any powers must be the subject of a referendum. The document attempts to commit the party against a system of proportional representation which is enshrined in the Government's agreement with the Liberal Party. It recog-

nizes the needs and electoral history of other members of the Community but states that the party cannot accept that elections in the United Kingdom should take place under a common system which would inevitably mean proportional representation.

It declares the party's opposition to holding direct elections at any time other than on the same day as the United Kingdom's parliamentary elections. The document also expresses the idea that elections should take place on the same day in each member state.

If those proposals are approved by the joint meeting and, later, the annual conference, the Government will be placed in an embarrassing position with the party, although there are sufficient routes through which it can escape and therefore avoid a clash between the Administration and the national executive committee.

There are doubts, for example, whether a system of proportional representation based on a regional list system will be approved by the Commons, and therefore the Government, while honouring the commitment to the Liberals, should be able to continue the relationship with Mr Steel and his colleagues.

None the less, the proposition that direct elections to the European Assembly should be held at the same time as Westminster elections runs counter to the European Community's objectives and time-scale for direct elections and consequently is likely to meet strong opposition from the pro-European on the national executive committee.

Leading article, page 13

Men rescued

Seamen were rescued by the North Sea yesterday after abandoning their ship, which had collided with Spanish ship off the Suffolk coast.

Fishermen's watchdog

Fishermen in north-east England are getting a patrol boat to protect them from Scottish trawlers during the winter sprats season after complaints that the Scots are driving them out.

Drugs guidance for old people's homes

John Roper, Health Services Correspondent, says that the Health and Social Security, says that as the average age of residents rises, the need for a special responsibility on family doctors in prescribing for residents in old people's homes.

The changing circumstances imposed a special responsibility on family doctors in prescribing for residents in old people's homes.

On admissions, the booklet says that many local authorities were handling a high proportion of emergencies, which could lead to an uneconomic use of resources. Health and social service authorities should establish a procedure for assessing an elderly person's needs before admission. When residents were admitted as an emergency they should be assessed as soon as possible afterwards.

Various forms of support in the home, day care, sheltered housing, respite care, or a day hospital for rehabilitation treatment or even a short term of care in hospital were among the options open.

Equity to meet theatre owners on closure fear

Kenneth Gosling, Officials of Equity, the actors' union, are to meet the managers of Howard and Wyndham's next week to discuss the union's claim that the company is about to sell its provincial theatre holdings.

Actors with placards demonstrated outside the company's offices in the West End of London yesterday. The union is worried that theatres owned by the company in Liverpool, Manchester and Oxford may be sold.

Mr David Crouch, Conservative MP for Canterbury, who promoted the Bill leading to the establishment of the Theatres Trust, said no planning permission for a change of use of theatre buildings could be granted without reference to the trust.

"It is suggested there should be a big grant of funds, about £5m, to save these theatres", he said. "However, the Theatres Trust is really meant to be more like the National Trust and not a receptacle for this kind of money."

Synod to seek views on clergy's pay differentials

Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent, says that the General Synod of the Church of England yesterday in the present pay structure of the church.

Canon G. Clayton, of Salisbury, said that the gap was much larger than the difference between a newly ordained curate and an incumbent of long service.

He was one of several speakers wanting to ensure a general debate in the church on clergy pay differentials, in the face of a report from a Farbridge commission by the Church Commissioners which argued in favour of the status quo, with some minor adjustments.

St. Ronald Harris, First Church Estates Commissioner, had urged the Synod to commend the report, and promised that this, and any comments on it, would be borne in mind in deciding future pay policy.



Public acquisition: "Portrait of a Collector", by Parnigianino (1503-40), was acquired by the National Gallery at Christie's yesterday for £650,000. With buyer's premium the price was £715,000, and will use up most of the gallery's annual purchase grant of £990,000. The portrait was one of the last important paintings by Parnigianino still in private hands.

Polytechnic staffs' pay plight

Salary increases of between a third and a half are needed if polytechnic teachers are to regain the standard of living they had three years ago, according to a report by the Association of Polytechnic Teachers, published today.

The report shows that while the salaries of polytechnic teachers have risen by between 40 per cent for the lowest paid lecturer and 25 per cent for a head of department since the Eighting report awards in April 1974, the cost of living has increased by about 72 per cent. Average earnings have risen by about 69 per cent in the same period.

The lowest-paid lecturer at a polytechnic earns about £3,500, a senior lecturer, about £6,900, a reader £7,900, and a top grade head of department £9,900.

The association estimates that polytechnic teachers have suffered more than any other group of workers under phase two of the pay policy.

Writ on council over 50 houses

A writ has been served on Southwark Council, London, in an attempt to stop it demolishing a row of terrace houses in Moncrieff Street, Peckham. Tenants of the 50 houses threatened by the council's plans to build a supermarket and a car park on the site of their homes are seeking a High Court injunction to restrain Southwark from demolishing or gutting the houses.

Calls for a public inquiry on the future of Moncrieff Street have been supported by Mr Silkin, the Attorney General, who is also the local MP.

Unexpected bids for still lifes

By Geraldine Norman, Sales Room Correspondent

Christie's sale of Old Master paintings yesterday achieved some of the most eccentric results of any recent auction in this field. Some paintings were virtually ignored by bidders, mainly those in indifferent condition or not very attractive, leaving 35 out of 117.

At the same time pretty works, especially still lifes of flowers and fruit, frequently ran to prices several times higher than expected. There was a new auction record for Francesco Guardi when his delicate view of "The Isola de San Giorgio Maggiore" went to Brod at £110,000 (estimate £20,000-£25,000). Brod also paid £16,000 (estimate £12,000-£15,000) for a tiny Guardi capriccio.

Richard Green paid £95,000 (estimate £20,000-£30,000) for a simple brown-toned seascape by Jan van Goyen in nice condition. Selling vessels in a Spanish style was also the leading purchaser of fruit, paying £90,000 (estimate £30,000-£35,000) for Peaches and Grapes in a Bowl (estimate £10,000-£15,000) for "Plums in a Bowl" by Jacob van Huisdonck; David Keane paid £35,000 (estimate £10,000-£15,000) for "Apparatus and red Currants on a Ledge" by Adrian Coote; and Esoldo, £35,000 (estimate £10,000-£15,000) for "Wild Strawberries in a Bowl and Gooseberries on a Ledge" by the same artist.

But even fruit was not a consistent winner. Jacob Merten's "Baskets of Grapes, Peaches, Lemons and other Fruits" went for £7,200 (estimate £7,000-£10,000).

Only one school seemed capable of appreciating buyers whether the paintings were in good bad or indifferent condition: the Flemish landscape school of the Brueghels. A Polish bought most of them, paying £14,000 (estimate £8,000-£10,000) for "Jan van Kessel's 'Concert of Birds'".

Other high prices in the sale of Old Master paintings were £70,000-£100,000 for "An Extensive Landscape" by Philips Koninck, £109,000 (estimate £30,000-£40,000) for "A Panoramic view of Olinda" in Brazil by Frans Post and £90,000 (estimate £30,000-£40,000) for "Flemish proverb illustrated" by Pieter Bruegel the Younger.

A large "Crucifixion" panel by Albrecht Dürer was unsold for £45,000 (estimate £20,000-£30,000). The sale made £2,434,750 with 9 per cent unsold. A sale of 51 Oriental carpets and textiles held at Sotheby's and Christie's, reflected the continuing demand for collectors' items while prices for them were £2,500 to many of them were £5,000 (estimate £2,500-£5,000).

Children over 14 to pay double for season tickets

By a Staff Reporter

Schoolchildren over 14 will be charged double for their season tickets next year when the British Rail confirmed yesterday. Only four days ago it announced a general fares freeze this year.

The increase will save British Rail £1m a year. An official said the rest of the season's 2 package of increases approved last year by the Price Commission and that local authorities, which pay for about nine-tenths of the season tickets, were informed in January.

"The reason the withdrawal of concessionary fares was not implemented then was to see if they were properly advised," he said.

British Rail also said that more than 40,000 bicycle tickets had been issued in the five weeks since it announced that bicycles would be carried free. That compares with only 11,000 tickets during the whole of last year when they were charged half-fare.

No application form for a ticket will now be needed and British Rail will consider whether free cycle travel should continue when the present offer closes on September 30.

Children over 14 to pay double for season tickets

received loud applause for asking whether it was satisfactory that the church should let the Government be the compassionate agency in this matter.

The Rev L. G. Moss, of Hereford, said he could see no justification for the present range in incumbents' pay from £2,400 to £23,500 so many of them were doing the same kind of work.

Mr J. M. Cobham, of Oxford, said the real differential among incumbents was between the clergyman whose wife was a full-time unpaid unofficial curate and one whose wife had a job of her own.

WEST EUROPE

New York's continued ban on Concorde seen as 'major affair' in Franco-US relations

Paris, July 8.—The continued refusal of the Port of New York Authority to allow Concorde to make test flights to Kennedy airport is a major affair for Franco-American relations, M. Louis de Guiringaud, the Foreign Minister, told Mr Arthur Harnman, the American Ambassador, today.

A French spokesman said that Mr Harnman was paying his first official visit to the Minister when M. de Guiringaud emphasized the view of the Government over the Concorde affair.

Earlier, M. Jean-Pierre Fourcade, the Minister of Public Works, had deplored the decision.

"Our fellow citizens cannot understand the American position, which risks changing relations between our two countries", he said in a statement.

M. Fourcade, a former Finance Minister and close aide of President Giscard d'Estaing, said that the French Government was "strongly determined to employ all the steps open to it to fight against this discrimination towards one of the most successful products of European technology".

The decision "penalizes Air France and British Airways" because they could not use Concorde on the most favourable route where "it prevents the maximum of advantages compared to its competitors", he said.

M. Lucien Neuwirth, president of the National Assembly's Concorde defence committee, said that the decision was an anachronism "in which the absurdity competes with the mediocrity. New York, now a backward, bankrupt city, is unable to understand today's world."

The French and British Governments should "re-examine the landing rights of aircraft coming from New York", he said.

M. Marcel Cavallé, the Minister of Transport, said today that the ban on Concorde was discriminatory and intolerable. He added: "The battle continues."—AP, Reuter.

Political move: Mr Robert Adley, Conservative MP for Christchurch and Lymington, and chairman of the Anglo-French Concorde Group, said he was seeking a meeting with the Foreign Office to discuss the need for Britain to change its tactics in the battle for Concorde's landing rights in New York.

"It is clear that Concorde is facing purely political enemies in New York. It is abundantly clear that the American Government holds the responsibility for the present situation", he said.

"The British Government is still playing along with the American Government in the attitude that this is a matter for the courts. The Port of New York Authority is a politically-controlled body which is making all the running and its decisions and pronouncements are purely political."

Moscow: Tass took the side of Britain and France in the controversy over Concorde. The news agency said that "by greivously the landing of the aircraft in the lucrative New York airport, influential American circles, and air and aircraft building firms backing them, strive to weaken the competitiveness of British Airways and Air France and to undermine the manufacture of supersonic aircraft in West Europe."—AP.

Nazi death camp guard sentenced

Frankfurt, July 8.—A former Nazi extermination camp guard who once bragged he could kill a man with 12 whiplashes today received a 15-year prison sentence after a re-trial in West Germany's longest trials.

Hubert Gomerski, aged 65, will remain at liberty because he served 22 years of a previous life sentence for the same crimes before being freed in 1972 for a re-trial. Judge Volker Schneider ruled.

The judge said that Herr Gomerski "acted with particularly noteworthy brutality" in helping to torture, gas and shoot several thousand inmates, mainly Jewish, of Sobibor extermination camp in Nazi-occupied Poland in 1942-43.

When transports arrived with new victims rounded up by the Nazi genocide machine, Herr Gomerski pushed himself with his brutality. Witnesses said "he was among members of the camp staff who were especially feared because of their rough manner and cruelty."

One witness testified that the former SS sergeant "bragged that he could kill a person with 12 lashes of his whip."

Herr Gomerski was originally sentenced to life imprisonment for the same crimes in 1950. He was freed in 1972, when his request for a re-trial was granted because the Appeal Court ruled he was convicted on the basis of partially false, incomplete testimony.

The re-trial dragged on through 210 court sessions.—AP.

Italian vendetta claims its 26th victim

From Our Correspondent

A feud between two families in Cimino, a little village in southern Calabria, is believed to have claimed its twenty-sixth victim today, 860 miles away in Turin.

Signor Giuseppe Zucco, aged 40, who has emigrated from Cimino to work as a bricklayer in Turin, was drinking coffee in a Turin bar with his son Antonio, aged 16, this morning when two men fired at them through the window with a rifle and a semi-automatic.

Gravely wounded, Signor Zucco tried to drag himself out of the bar but was killed with a pistol shot at close range. Antonio was injured but survived. The two killers made off in a winking car.

Herr Brandt is undecided

Bonn, July 8.—Herr Willy Brandt, the former West German Chancellor, has not finally decided whether to carry through with his agreement in principle to head a new international commission designed to improve relations between rich and poor countries, a spokesman for his Social Democratic Party said today.

Brandt was in contact with a number of leaders about the usefulness of the project, and these consultations would not be concluded until September, when a final decision on whether to set up the commission would probably be made.—Reuter.

Dr Waldheim has 'moral power'

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, July 8.—Dr Kurt Waldheim, Secretary-General of the United Nations, said today that he had a new international commission designed to improve relations between rich and poor countries, a spokesman for his Social Democratic Party said today.

Brandt was in contact with a number of leaders about the usefulness of the project, and these consultations would not be concluded until September, when a final decision on whether to set up the commission would probably be made.—Reuter.

Britain takes no chances with Unesco sports group

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, July 8

Mr Denis Howell, the Minister for Sport, paid a flying visit to Paris today to try to forestall what the British Government sees as the danger of too much political involvement in a new Unesco sports organisation.

The grouping is to be the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport, proposed innocuously enough during the Unesco conference in Nairobi last December. Its aims are to fund and organize physical training in schools, looking into the problem of misuse of drugs and generally improving facilities for sportsmen and to find out whether countries would be represented on international bodies by sportsmen.

The British intention, he said, was to guarantee sports for sportsmen and to find out whether countries would be represented on international bodies by sportsmen.

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So Mr Howell came to the interim committee meeting to propose a resolution, one clause of which he insisted should go into the official minutes. This called for an ad hoc working group to meet before the next session of the interim committee "bearing in mind the complexities of the highly organized world of competitive sport and the different constitutions of Unesco states; and having regard for the private nature of the world sports organization."

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Opinion poll boost for Parliament in France

From Ian Murray

Paris July 8

The findings of a Sofres opinion poll must have given some encouragement to President Giscard d'Estaing as he prepared to address an audience in the provincial town of Carpentras tonight.

The poll, for the weekly *Vieillesse* magazine, showed that 52 per cent of people questioned thought that Parliament should have the right to demand the resignation of a minister, while only 31 per cent felt that this was the job of the president.

Another question showed that 40 per cent felt that the President should be the head of the Government, and 33 per cent felt that he should have control over certain areas. However, 26 per cent felt he should have merely a representative role.

With eight months to go to the elections for the legislature, Mr Giscard d'Estaing's speech in the traditional manner of a president of the Fifth Republic, gained especial importance.

He chose Carpentras, in the heart of Provence, largely because it is on the way to Brest, where he has a holiday home. But it is seen as significant that he has chosen to go out for the first time and set out his political plans to the people rather than make his speech to a television camera.

Unusually, the text of what he had to say was not released in advance and he prepared it himself, seeking guidance on a few details from immediate colleagues.

Whatever the troubles of the President, the continuing problems of the left in dragging out their communal programme are giving hope to the majority that they may be able to hold on in the elections.

Those hopes have been given a fillip by the latest round of talks between the Socialists and Communists on the subject of nationalisation.

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OVERSEAS

Harsh Albanian attack signals the end of special link with China

From Dossa Trevisan

Belgrade, July 8

The alliance between China and Albania, called to life 16 years ago by Soviet imperialism, the common enemy of both countries, seems to have broken up.

Albania has now launched an ideological attack on China's theory of the revolutionary nature of the Third World, accusing it of betraying true Marxism-Leninism and of propagating ideas which are having "catastrophic consequences" for the revolutionary cause of the proletariat throughout the world.

The attack, carried by the Albanian newspaper *Zeri i Popullit* yesterday, did not mention China by name, but the long diatribe was clearly directed at China and reflected Albania's growing dissatisfaction with the way things were going in the since the purge of the radicals.

Even before, a certain coolness was noticeable as Peking began to mend its fences with the United States and, from the Albanian point of view, worse still with President Tito. Yugoslav revisionism is anathema in Tirana, though relations on the state level have improved in recent years. The Albanian leadership maintains, however, that there can be no compromise over ideological issues.

Recently, Peking appears to have added insult to injury by inviting President Tito on a state visit which shows clearly the reasons for the timing of the Albanian attack on Peking.

Although trouble between Peking and Tirana has been simmering for some time, the *Zeri i Popullit* attack goes way beyond previous hints of criticism.

The Albanian party organ disparaged Peking's theory that one super power was less dangerous than the other on the Third World represented a shield against both. Such a theory, the Albanians asserted, not only ignored the contradictions between the two rival social systems—capitalism and socialism—but was opportunistic, anti-Marxist and dangerous as it called upon the

oppressed millions to abandon the revolution.

There was a clear attack on China's practice of lumping together under the heading of anti-imperialist allies Arab oil sheikhs, General Pinochet of Chile and President Mobutu of Zaire.

The theory propounded by Peking that the Third World represented the world revolution's defence against imperialism, was now challenged by the Albanians because it created an illusion that "a cloak was found under which nations can shelter against the threat of superpowers".

There was another rebuke for China implicit in the article's rejection of the principle that "the enemy of my enemy is my friend".

The United States and the Soviet Union were equally dangerous to all people in striving to extend their domination, the newspaper said. Even if a country was directly threatened by one of the superpowers, this did not mean that in the other superpower would become a friend, or that it should be treated as one.

The Albanians therefore warned Peking of the "catastrophic consequences" which an alliance with one superpower directed against the other would have on the revolution.

The drift of the Albanian attack shows that the special relationship which existed for 16 years between Peking and Tirana has come to an end and that the Albanians are deeply disappointed in China's failure to hold up the revolutionary banner.

At the same time, it also reveals that there may have been very strong domestic reasons for such an attack. Last year, Mr Enver Hoxha, the party leader, organized a thorough purge and it may be that his policy has once again been challenged.

Although the article is equally hostile to the Soviet Union and the United States, it is believed that Mr Hoxha is under pressure from some sections of the regime who feel encouraged by China's rapprochement with the United States and would like to see an Albanian opening to the West.

Mr Fukuda hopes for independents' help

From Peter Hazelhurst

Tokyo, July 8

Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party will try to absorb successful independent candidates into its ranks rather than enter a coalition alliance with the Opposition if it loses its majority during elections to the Upper House of Sunday.

Saddled with the prospect of a setback at the polls on Sunday, senior party leaders said today that Mr Fukuda, the Prime Minister, is confident of retaining effective power in Parliament if a small number of sympathetic independents join, or lend their support to, the Government in the Upper House.

"A working arrangement with the formal opposition parties in Parliament would force the Liberal Democrats to compromise on basic policy and we will attempt to avoid it at all costs," a spokesman said. "We are confident of winning a majority but if we do not, we hope that independents will join the party."

As more than 78 million Japanese voters prepare to go to the polls on Sunday to elect half of the 252 representatives to the Upper House, the latest opinion polls indicate

that the ruling party has gained some ground this week, but it is unlikely to retain its present strength of 127 seats, a bare majority.

According to the latest projections of Asahi Shimbun, which is noted for accurate surveys, the ruling party is expected to lose three to seven crucial seats to the slightly less conservative forces in the Opposition.

In contrast to the charged atmosphere of seven months ago when an election to the Lower House of the Diet was dominated by the Lockheed scandal, no burning issue has been raised.

Illustrating that the Lockheed controversy has passed into political history in Japan, the Liberal Democrats allocated 22 of their 76 nominations to candidates drawn from a faction under the control of Mr Kakuei Tanaka, the former Prime Minister, who is standing trial on charges of accepting bribes from the American aircraft corporation.

Commenting on the fact that the incumbent prime minister's faction received only 21 nominations, the Japanese press suggested today that Mr Tanaka, disgraced as he is, remains a hidden force.

Asian group to seek links with communists

Singapore, July 8

The foreign ministers of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) committed their five countries today to promoting peaceful relations with Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

In a communiqué, the ministers also said the non-communist nations of the region were confident that talks to be held with Japan, Australia and New Zealand next month would bring closer links.

The communiqué said: "The ministers reviewed the situation in South-East Asia and reiterated the desire of ASEAN countries to promote peaceful beneficial relations with all countries, including Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam, on the basis of mutual respect for each other's sovereignty."

The statement coincided with an announcement from Manila that a Vietnamese trade and goodwill mission would visit the Philippines.—UPI

Ghanaians strike in favour of civilian rule

Accra, July 8

Professional workers went on strike today in an attempt to compel Ghana's Supreme Military Council to speed up its timetable for a return to civilian rule.

In Accra, medical services were practically halted as doctors and dentists joined the strike, together with lawyers, accountants, engineers and others. Similar strikes were being held in other big cities.

General Acheampong, the head of state, announced on June 30 that a committee would invite views on how the country might be governed. The timetable for the committee to report in three months with a referendum six months after that on the form of government.

After the referendum a constituent assembly would be set up to write a constitution before power was handed to civilians.—AP

Envoys find Soviet President in fine health

Moscow, July 8

President Brezhnev showed at a meeting with the diplomatic corps today that recent reports of his deteriorating health are "total nonsense", western diplomatic sources said.

They said that the President received all of the ambassadors stationed in Moscow at the Kremlin in an hour and 15 minutes and was on his feet during the entire time.

Mr Brezhnev, aged 70, shook hands with each ambassador, stopped to chat with most of the envoys, listened to a speech by Mr Robert Ford, the Canadian Ambassador, and the clean of the diplomatic corps in Moscow, and responded with a statement of his own.

"He was sufficiently alert mentally to speak individually to a hundred or so envoys and charged," one Western diplomat, who was at the meeting, recalled. "Mr Brezhnev is in pretty good shape now."

After Mr Brezhnev's journey to Paris last month, French officials were reported to have concluded that he was nearing the end of his rule because of ill health.

Some Moscow analysts believe that Mr Brezhnev suffers sudden fluctuations in his health resulting from a serious, but not debilitating disease. Others speculate that he is "bouncing back" from an attack through the use of powerful drugs.—UPI



Versatile prince: The Prince of Wales was initiated into the Kainai (Blood Indian) tribe at Sun Dance Camp in Alberta, and became an honorary chief with the name of Red Crow. Later, wearing a white cowboy hat, he rode on a black mare with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police at the head of a mile-long parade in the annual Calgary Stampede.

Pakistan military takeover surprising only in its timing

Four-month political crisis that led to Mr Bhutto's downfall

From Hasan Akhtar

Islamabad, July 8

The intervention by the armed forces in Pakistan's political crisis, although sudden, was not entirely unexpected. Indeed as time passed without the crisis coming to an end, many Pakistanis who have developed a habit of looking to the armed forces to pull them out of natural or man-made calamities, began to wonder why the army had not done anything about it.

The military takeover came after four months of uncertainty and unrest, which began when the Opposition alleged that votes had been rigged in the general election on March 7. Mr Bhutto's People's Party had emerged victorious with a larger margin than in the last election seven years ago.

Despite the fact that six years ago Mr Bhutto's autocratic rule had ended much of his own and his party's popularity, at least in the cities.

After this amazing electoral triumph, which surpassed even Mr Bhutto's expectations, thanks to the large number of ballot manipulations by his functioning party members and subversive district and provincial officials, he brushed aside Opposition protests and declared that there was no question of a fresh election.

The nine-party Pakistan National Alliance, however, forced the ballot rigging and was ready to hit back with anti-government demon-

strations on a wide scale. The protests gained momentum and by April 9, when police and federal security forces killed an estimated 25 of the thousands of indignant men and women protesting near the assembly building in Lahore, it became apparent that Mr Bhutto had overreached himself. That incident in Lahore, with its subsequent repercussions in other parts of Punjab, proved the turning point in Mr Bhutto's political decline.

After three months of vacillation, and under pressure from the military high command to seek a political settlement instead of keeping the armed forces locked in endless confrontation with the people, Mr Bhutto agreed to begin negotiations with the Opposition.

On June 3 the principal Opposition leaders, freed from detention, were invited to the government camp and during the next 30 days of erratic discussion, the two sides appeared very close to a settlement.

But then, it appears, both sides came to the conclusion that they had conspired to work to each other's detriment. The Opposition feared the draft agreement would give the Government an opportunity to repeat its March victory and the Government thought the Opposition would not accept the draft. On July 3 both sides said they were having second thoughts. Meanwhile there was renewed street fighting in Lahore, with

government supporters allegedly armed by the authorities. The situation, as it has emerged after the takeover by General Zia-ul-Haq, the army chief of staff, and the imposition of martial law, which some suspected came about as a result of collusion with the former prime minister, who controversially gave the impression that the armed forces were at his beck and call, comes very close to what the Opposition wanted: that it repeatedly demanded that in order to ensure the freedom and fairness of a new election, it should be conducted jointly by the army and judiciary.

The present circumstances are a happy for Mr Bhutto. Deprived of control over the organs of state and government which have traditionally helped government parties to score easy electoral victories in countries like Pakistan, the People's Party has a slim chance of winning the election planned for October. Mr Bhutto may well refuse to take part in the poll, on the pretext that he would not recognize an election conducted outside the Constitution.

The Opposition parties, however, are certain to take part. At present they propose to fight the election on a united front, but it is not inconceivable that some of them will support Mr Bhutto's non-participation, thus the components of the Pakistan National Alliance may part company.

Certainly, the crowd of around 7,000 people expected at the Rashid stadium, many of whom had bought tickets a long time in advance, will be particularly disappointed not to see the European champion, Foster, whose late withdrawal was caused by a hamstring strain. But such is the enthusiasm for the sport in this isolated town, with its 90,000 population, that any kind of good athletics will be appreciated in what the organizers claim to be the northernmost international match ever held.

Oulu, which is covered in snow for well over half the year and where temperatures can enjoy a temperature range of less than -30°C to more than 40°C (which it has been this week), is proud to stage the event, which is transferred from Helsinki. It is a town with a solid athletics tradition, despite the climatic difficulties. It was here that Julius Vaahtanen, the European 5,000 and 10,000 metres champion in 1971, did his exhaustive training in the pine forests where the world champion, like a deep pile carpet, beneath your feet.

Mr Gréville, Junior, Labour MP for Leicester West, said last night that Britain should refuse to send the vehicles and take the risk of being sued for breach of contract.

It was disgraceful that such a transaction should be taking place when such vehicles were being used in the killing of Ugandan people, he said. Mr Janman said that he would approach the Foreign Secretary after failing to get any further information from the Ministry.

Asked by *The Times* about the consignment, the Crown Agents said that the master was confidential.

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SPORT

Athletics



Cape (left) and Stahlberg, whose meeting in it should be evenly balanced and important.

Withdrawals could be costly to Britain

From Cliff Temple

Athletics Correspondent

Oulu, Finland, July 8

The withdrawal of Brendan Foster, Steven Oyler and Tony Stoneham from the British team to meet Finland in the two-day athletics match beginning here tomorrow could be costly for the British. The British team, which is expected to be a strong one, has lost three of its best performers this year: the men's 100 metres runner, Foster, the 110 metres hurdler, Oyler, and the 400 metres runner, Stoneham. The British team, which is expected to be a strong one, has lost three of its best performers this year: the men's 100 metres runner, Foster, the 110 metres hurdler, Oyler, and the 400 metres runner, Stoneham.

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Of the confrontation

between the two teams, none should be evenly balanced, not so here. The match really is tomorrow between Cape and Reijo Stahlberg, a Finnish runner. Stahlberg has three 500 metres in his last, but one, race, with a best of 5.70 in a competition with some of the best in the world. On the rubbering track, the Finns will be looking upon their own champion, Cape, who still has not fully recovered from a serious winter injury sustained in April 1976, when he finished third in a 500 metres race in 5.70 seconds. But the contest is individual. Finns, as should be as keen as the British, because the team before the European Cup final match in Athens, and will be selected at meeting.

One man already in the team, must be the 19.500 metres runner, Pannonen, who has been in England several times before the European Cup final match in Athens, and will be selected at meeting.

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Pretoria leadership rivals clash on sex laws

From Ray Kennedy

Johannesburg, July 8

The battle lines in a confrontation for the white leadership of South Africa are now being drawn up over the basic issue of sexual relations between people of different races.

There have been adamant denials that Mr Vorster, the Prime Minister, is stepping down; but it has become obvious that he has slowed down noticeably in the last 18 months, or ever since his efforts to achieve détente with the politically inclined black African states came to nothing. He will

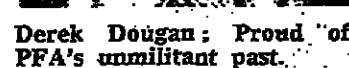
be 65 in December, and it seems that his political life is drawing to a close.

The opposing points of view on sexual relations are already being clearly and publicly expressed. Mr R. F. Botha, the new, outspoken Foreign Minister, has said unequivocally: "We do not need an Immorality Act. We must be the only country in the world with such an Act."

Dougan warns League that players may vote to strike

Rugby Union

League system 'could'



tem 'could

League system 'could benefit England'

British Isles need a good deal from new pack

British Isles need a good deal from new pack

Lloyd's variety of stroke ensures a place in final

Lloyd's variety of stroke ensures a place in final

of Irish descent.
The 37-year-old Brazilian stroked to a straight sets win in 30 minutes in the semi-final round against another Australian, Susan Saliba, the No 4 seed. Miss Bueno

Fluellen an irresistible attraction in an elusive Magnet Cup at York

York programme

Callaghan, St. Newmarket, N. S. 61.
 19th 16.75pc.
 O. (S. O.). PHILIP, CORNER, MURKIN.
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Attraction in Goodwood at York date for Relative Ease

Chester programme
2.0 PULFORD STAKES (2-y-o: £1,005: 7f)

TOTAL DOUBLES: Wheatston Sound and
NINE 42.00sec. **TOTALS:**
TOTTENHAM, RONALD 8.00sec.
W.N. 6.98 Sec. JACKPOT 62.55sec.
Swamsted pool today, \$3,000.

ALSO RAN: G.I. William's Promise
66-1/Purveyor (4th) - 5.70sec.

TITLE: Wm. J. Farrell, Soc. S.
Hobbs at Newmarket, 1.11. Amint
48.22sec.

Poor treatment not upset Mountain Cro

Carlisle programme

6.15 LANGDALE STAKES (2-y-o maiden fillies): £485:

3	303	Dixie Belle (S), G. Hunter	8-11	J.
6	2	Madama Secret, M. W. Easterby	8-11	J.
7	0	Kiss of Gold, Danny Smith	8-11	L. Charn
9	200	Wine of France, J. Hall	8-11	

[illegible]

DAY JULY 9 1977

Saturday Review

A Siena souvenir

by
Edna
O'Brien



Illustration by Michael Trevithick

is extract is taken from
a I Hardly Knew You.
Edna O'Brien, which is
being published on
day by Weidenfeld and
Nicolson at £3.65.

I wonder if the sights of Tus-
cany will help me through. I
saw so many pictures of mar-
tyrdom, St. John of all con-
fessions, Pope, innumerable
Christs stretched across win-
dows, urging mankind to
repent. Alas, so decked and
so profuse with flowers it was
as if gardens bloomed beneath
them. Frescoes too. Those that
depicted scourging and those
that depicted happy domestic
scenes. Then a painting of a
little girl whom death claimed
because she had taken an
apple from a stranger. They are
so fresh in my mind, they
perhaps my buffer in this
heartless room. In fact some-
times I have been able to im-
agine myself back there, par-
ticularly seeing those paintings
on a yellow wall, on a sum-
mer's day, bright being painted in
which the actual figures were so
that at times one saw them, at
other times they vanished.

In short they came and went
like spirits, like shadows. Yet
they were perfect as was the
long dining room with its round
arches and the veranda scorch-
ingly bright being packed with
pots of geraniums. Beyond the
railings there was a drop to a
valley of green impassive trees.

Soon after the tea and the
buckwheat pancake, I was in-
vited to go to Tuscany. I was
to see some pictures. Hart and
my son had gone to Edinburgh
to see a play. I was glad to
leave and yet I had such apprehen-
sion about my journey. My future
employer was a millionaire and
a bit peculiar. He was a fat
man, and more interested in
his hawks and in the tame
birds he fattened for them
than in his collection of paint-
ings. My friend Madeline had
arranged it. She had taken a
villa next to his for the sum-
mer.

I recall my room, in the
villa, every aspect of it. It was
sparsely furnished and that is a
good thing because I can sum-
marise it up in a minute and
there is no clutter. There was
the big bench next to the wall,
where I put my clock and my
toiletries, and where there was
a chest of drawers. I had a
candle in one of the windows.
It was all the time at first,
so that even they went into
hiding.

There was an old round hall
stand and on each of the
wooden prongs I hung some of
my clothing, so that anyone
entering the room would
immediately assume that it was
a stage prop so decked was it
with scarves, purses and multi-
coloured dresses. No one did
enter the room except the

maid each morning with a
flask of coffee, warm bread
and three flavours of jam. I
would ask her not to open the
shutters because I hate being
signed when I waken and also
it was sweeter to be in the
dark, and sip the coffee and
take the crusts of bread and
sip them, the variety of
jams and honey. Invariably she
forgot a knife.

Then at last when my eyes
were ready for it I got up and
undid the shutters. The catches
on one pair were iron and the
other Oiled bolt and back and
forth like a dream as if it
were waiting for that, as if
that were its only desire. I
would do it several times for
amusement, its own and mine,
and then suddenly throw the
shutters upwards and there
the world would be and there
the leaves were, shivering, and
lushed.

The olive leaves would be
slender, and the others
various hues of green or yel-
low and as far as the eye could
see were these trees and the
dark cypresses, the blur of
black, beside the yellow stone
houses with red shingled roofs.
Even the telegraph poles
seemed rustic in among the
trees. They were small wooden
poles, and compared with the
big pylons they seemed to have
no track with the race of time.

One morning a hen appeared
to have laid an egg, at least
she exclaimed as hens do, and
then the dog barked and in a
field not far distant working
"go on" and all the little top-
sides of all the olive trees
swayed faintly silver, in the
lovely sporadic breeze.

I was content there, content
then. I could think of him or I
could refuse to think of him. I
was mistress of my thoughts
and much more to the point,
mistress of my heart. The only
worry was when would the mil-
lionaire send for me and what
kind of impression would I
make on him. Two days had
gone by and there was no sum-
mons from him. He had paid
my fare and added a small
amount for expenses. Madeline
handed me the envelope with
the new notes. I loved them,
loved their pink and rus-
set colour and the pictures
showing a flight of steps that
led to a square, and then the
very patient, very resigned
face of Michelangelo. Yes I
was glad I had come.

I would stand at the one
window for quite a long time
and just stare at the forest
that sloped down to a plain
of young vines, and then
raise my eyes a fraction to

follow the ground that rose
about it, yellow ground, newly
tilled. It is true that the
cypresses unnerved me a bit.
They spoke to me of ghost-
liness and perhaps they
reminded me of death.

I think now when I revisit
that room that it was death
they suggested but they were
quite far away on the horizon
so to speak, while near me
surrounding me were the little
sturdy life-giving olives, the lit-
tle nut trees and various other
trees like nutmegs and it was
not death I thought of or
dwelt on, but of Hart and
myself slipping into bed, per-
haps, one day or one night and
snatching eagerly from life all
the pleasure and all the satis-
faction that might be ours. I
would have liked him there
and yet I did not want him
there. I did not write to him,
I did not even send a card.

I flirted mildly with one of
the other young boys and used
to ask him to take walks with
me so that we could identify
the wild flowers. He was blond
and blue-eyed, not as haunting
as Hart, more acolyte than
saint. One evening I had to
take him to the hospital
because his foot had swelled
up after a wine sting.

While they drew the poison
off it I waited in the corridor
where there were scatterings
of patients and visitors. At the
end of the long room was a
huge barred window and I
walked down there and sat
before me in true magical
bookishness the street
lights of Siena, the mountains
beyond, and just above their
peaks pathways of scarlet in
the hushed blue vault of the
heavens. Seen through bars,
just like now. Here I get a
miserable fraction of sky and it
could be grey woollen cloth, or
opaque and unchanging is it.
Yet as I stood there I did not
mind the bars, in some ways
they added interest. But I was
not a patient.

I thought that Hart and my
son were probably building a
stage at that very moment, giv-
ing orders, hammering, laugh-
ing, getting cables laid, work-
ing, clowning and I wondered
why I did not miss them at all.
The young boy, hobbled
towards me sporting a very big
important bonnet. I helped
him out.

Thus in the twilight that was
quickly passing, we saw the
pages, change from beige and
pink to a warm ochre red, a
red that seemed to exude life.
The square was deserted save
for a few cars and the houses
like little palaces guarded the
vast cathedral in the centre. It

was one of those beguiling
moments which causes one to
say "I could live here," or "I
well end my days here";
moments when it seems that the
caves that bend us will soon
pass, our shackles will turn
into streamers, moments when
even to ourselves we appear to
walk on air, proud pirouettes
impelled by the most propi-
tious of gods.

We claimed the flight of
steps that was dizzying in
order to enter the cathedral
and to light candles, perhaps
to light candles for our sepa-
rate intentions. But the iron-
studded door was closed, and
though we made some foolish
attempt at knocking we were
much more exhilarated by the
thought of a grappa than the
possibility of entering God's
house.

I personally did not care one
way or the other. Sightseeing
did not interest me. I had only
one real desire, to get back to
my room. The moment we got
home I rushed up to see if
anything had changed. But
there was so little that could
change. There was the big
black wrought-iron double bed,
with a mosaic in the centre of
the bedhead. There was the
chair, that belonged more
rightly in church, the wooden
bench and a lampshade that
was extremely incongruous
being pretty and fringed.

All in all it was a blissful
combination. The lampshade
hung on the hall stand were
what might be called the
female elements in the room,
while the other furnishings,
gaunt as they were, fitted
aply with the idea of male
masculinity. A monk's room you might
say, with a bit of floss.

I had the conviction that I
could stay there indefinitely,
that those trees, and the way
they swayed, or the way they
unswayed, that the dog and the
various other dogs whom I
could hear but not see, that
the hens, and the cypresses
were my guardians, that by
hiding there I could forget
dies, forget insults, forget fear,
even forget Jude, forget the
hollowness of life.

It is strange that though I
loved the country and had
daydreams about clay, about
orchards, about things being
planted, I lived in a city and
saw things such as raspberries
or lettuce in shops far
removed from their source, as
I believed I was.

I did not have to forget or
banish Hart because in a sense
I had not begun to cleave to
the memory of him. All we
had had together was a dinner,

a ramble up a street, and a
surprise tea-time visit when he
managed to convince me that
he had left his sunglasses
behind. We even knelt and
groped for them although we
both knew that it was one of
those sweet ruses that had
liars, or intending lovers,
resort to.

So in the mountain room
with the rain outside, or if not
rain, drizzle, I would open the
windows and see the leaves
blowing as it were in my direc-
tion, then lean out, smell the
rain, hear the overflow in the
gutter, hear the pit-pat on the
leaves and occasionally the
wind that was louder and more
forceful. I thought, "Stay
here." Was that a voice in me,
warning, forewarning. But we
have so many voices in us, how
do we know which ones to
obey.

The next morning I looked
again to see if there was any
signal from the millionaire. No
letter had come. Madeline said
he might put a flag out, small
rain, hear the kind of man who
did nothing in the expected man-
ner, and for whom things had
to be bizarre, even extreme. It
seems he came to her villa one
night in a carriage-and-pair,
brought his own cook and a
brave pheasant.

She even speculated on a little
flirtation starting up between
him and me but I doubted it.
She said once I got in there I
would be encompassed by the
grandeur of it all. She said
there was champagne in every
room and no matter what the
season white musk-smelling
lilies.

We could see his house
behind the trees, it shone to
advantage at night, was like a
hugh white ship, with lights
winking on and off, at
moments a sudden darkness,
and then a fresh reinforcement
of lights as if the life inside it
was passing through the most
drastic, the most inconsistent
of changes. She vowed he
would send for me, but said
that I must not wait on him
and that if in fact I were out
he would be all the more im-
pressed.

We set off for a horse race
known as the Palio. The town
was in a fever of excitement.
Although we had arrived early,
every available seat was taken
and still crowds surged to get
through. The town hall and the
villas all around were festooned
with flowers, flags
hung from the various win-
dows. Residents and their
friends would lean out just to
take stock of what was happen-
ing and presently withdrawn.

No doubt there were gather-
ings in most of the rooms,
gatherings that had become a
tradition from year to year.
Very young boys in golden
coats with red epaulettes, and
embroidered breast fronts,
marched about, in a strut.
Some juggled, some played the
drums, others held the bright
reins of the horses. The horses
too were weighed down with
bells, roses and other orna-
mentation. These horses were
part of the pageantry, but the
combatants, the ones who
would race, were still in for-
ries at the back of the town
hall, and sometimes in a full
one could hear them whinny-
ing.

Eager for a good view we
would try to edge our way into
one place and then another
and often we looked up with
envy at those parties of people
who merely had to lean out of
their windows or loll on their
balconies. The rousing music,
the spontaneous outbursts
from the crowd, the dazzle of
the costumes and the cock-
iness of the boys added to the
excitement. Rumour was rife
at how dangerous the race
could be, and death was not
ruled out. We were told how
horses and riders had often
spilled their guts in the past
and as if that were not enough
how the losing jockeys would
gang together to kill the win-
ning jockey, with clubs. One of
the boys who had learnt
Italian was translator and if
anything he seemed to under-
stand. He was pale from the
onslaught of stories told to
him.

The more people who
arrived the more frantic the
thrill became; the late arri-
vals would try climbing on
other people's shoulders, or
erecing their folding step-lad-
ders. There was wildness
about. Shortly before it began,
the crowd lost patience and
made it clear that they were
no longer satisfied with music
or spectacle, that they wanted
the race. They began to stamp
and thrill. All heads were
craned towards the big
entrance door through which
the horses came and then just
as it was drawn back and the
bugles sounded several of the
women began to weep.

At once as the horses came
through, the roaring from the
crowd became massive, and
most people stood up so that
to us who were at the back the
evening was something which we
could only gauge from the
shouting, the exclaiming, the
booming and the wild conten-
tiousness from rival groups. All
we could see was one corner

around which the horses came
and while still craning to see
we found our footing gone as a
riderless horse broke loose and
the crowd ran like wildfire,
crushing each other in the pro-
cess. It was as if a wall of
swaying clamouring bodies all
fell on one and I thought the
day of general judgment had
arrived, as we sloped towards
the ground with bodies above,
bodies around, and bodies
beneath us.

Yet almost as suddenly as
we had been pitched, soon we
were swung upright again like
a wall that some master
builder had miraculously re-
stored. People were crying and
screaming, some had fainted,
several crossed themselves and
thanked their maker. The
horse was by now loose out on
the street or else someone had
managed to catch it.

On the far side of the square
the very same incident hap-
pened as we could discern
from the piteous cry of the
mob. When we stood up we
saw people running in all
directions, some to avoid cata-
strophe, others to seek it out.
We ran ourselves not knowing
what we wanted.

It was at least an hour
before things quietened and
not one of us knew who had
been the winner or what had
happened to the winning
jockey. The sand in the square
still seemed to shimmer from
the impact of the hooves, and
all around the place was ri-
ckled with papers, ice-cream
cans and empty bottles. A
restlessness had got into our
bones. We bought and drank
bottles of soft drink. One of
the young boys brought green
bulbous. Suddenly I found
myself dashing to a souvenir
shop to buy Hart a wooden
shoe. My party laughed as I
tossed it away, caused amusical
sounds to issue out.

"Who is it for?"
"A boy," I said.

Suddenly it was as if I had
put my sights on him and as if
from afar something had been
set in motion. I must have
known that I was going to see
him, that I was going to couple
with him and yet I would have
postponed it for ever. There
was a dance in the town
square and we all trooped off.
We danced with strangers, we
drank anything that was
offered to us. Somehow the
flute got broken, but I did not
care. The strangers danced
more robustly than I, but soon
I was catching up with them
and responding to their reck-
less embraces.

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DO THEY HAVE THE WILL TO GOVERN?

It has been a bad week for the government, but possibly quite so bad as it might be at first glance. The candidate came a long way, but the Liberal lost votes and won a rather smaller percentage of the poll; but he fared much better than Labour in face of the Tory tide. Not only has the Liberal hold on the second place been retained but the lead over Labour has been doubled. That is certainly consistent with a number of voters moving from Labour to Liberal as others have switched from Liberal to Conservative. This does not offer the Liberals electoral justification for the pact, but it does mean that they can still hope to attract radical Labour votes in critical seats where they could mean all the difference. They have done well enough at Saffron Walden not to want to break the pact up immediately, but not so well that they dare risk an early election.

Despite the poor Labour performance at Saffron Walden, therefore, the Government's chances of a further breathing space have in fact been improved. The question is whether they are in any condition to use it. The rebuffs they are receiving at the hands of the unions may turn out to be more damaging politically than economically. The chances of an effective phase three are remote, but with the present levels of unemployment and business activity that may not lead to such extravagant wage increases as many people fear. Yet ministers have publicly attached so much

DOES CARTER UNSETTLE THE RUSSIANS

democracies are heading into inevitable decline, that the Russians are the ascendant power, and that the main aim of east-west relations is to negotiate the least unfavourable shift in the world balance. Mr Carter is returning to the traditional American belief that democracy is the better, stronger and more truly revolutionary system, and that the desire for freedom is innate in most men and represents not a moral luxury but a potent political force that properly belongs to the American tradition. He sees no reason why Russia should claim primacy over true liberation movements (as distinct from those which merely use the name) and why he should not challenge the Russians to the sort of ideological and political competition which they always say is wholly consistent with détente, and indeed an essential element in their own doctrine of peaceful coexistence. His desire to raise the moral norms of international behaviour and make human rights a matter of international concern also springs from genuine religious belief, which the Russians find difficult to believe.

Of course this makes life difficult for the Russian leaders. They are elderly men who do not adapt easily to change. They thought they had established a fairly cosy relationship with the United States in which they were getting the deference due to a great power and implicit acknowledgment of their right to dominate certain parts of the world. They thought that the United States would spend longer licking its wounds after Vietnam and Watergate, instead of which it is bouncing back. They thought their military power would increase their political influence, instead of which it has provoked a reaction against their ideological influence would increase, instead of which it has been sharply reduced, especially among the communists and other left wing forces of western Europe.

In other words, the balance seems to be tilting against them at precisely the moment when they expected it to be doing the opposite, and they are now being

challenged where they least expected and least welcome it—not only in power politics and military technology but also in morals and ideology. President Carter's open espousal of human rights has unsettled them not only because they fear instability in eastern Europe and among their own nationalities but because it hurts their pride and puts them on trial before world opinion. The Russian leaders are emotional people. They believe in military power and other achievements entitle them to a certain respect. Dr Kissinger understood this. Mr Carter, they feel, does not. He humiliates them.

Mr Carter is, of course, taking certain risks. A truculent and resentful Soviet Union is not going to be easy to live with, and could be dangerous if emotions rise too high. Feelings do play a role in political behaviour. There are also dangers in encouraging the more primitive elements in the Soviet hierarchy during the struggle for power over the succession to Mr Brezhnev. But the risks should not be exaggerated. Moreover, Mr Carter tried soft-peddling human rights for a while and the only thanks he got was the arrest of even more Soviet dissidents.

Neither side has any real alternative but to struggle to expand the areas of cooperation, even while continuing competition. Tempting though it may be for the Russians either to turn in on themselves or to take more risks in confronting the United States, neither option would be likely to bring them real advantage. Unless unreason suddenly prevails they are locked into their uncomfortable relationship with the United States and they will eventually have to come to terms with a president who is not so much changing the rules as seeking more equal advantage under them. Perhaps in the long run the Russians will even look a bit more closely and see that he is in fact offering them far more opportunities for cooperation—in arms control and the third world, for instance—than they are ready to take up. Mr Carter does not bear all the blame for bad relations.

and deal Guatemalan justice to the alien and English-speaking peoples of the country. Mr Price has argued so effectively that countries as different in political complexion as Cuba and Panama, have even hinted at military support to Belize.

Guatemala is excited at this juncture for several reasons. One is the steady moral support Mr Price has built up. Another is the onset of elections early next year, with a right-wing party outflanking the Government with demands to confront Britain and have done, with it before the prize is lost. Equally, there is a pro-Castro left-wing party that is opposed, though whether it is ever got power it would abandon the hoary claim is conjectural. Over the years Britain has grown feeble, and Guatemala has re-equipped its forces. When the equipment was American there was perhaps some restraint; now that Israel is selling arms perhaps there is less. Thus, though Guatemala may back down again, the possibility of a new threat will remain. Britain has a solemn responsibility to Belize—to ensure that it can become peacefully independent. Happily in this it is wholly at one with the tenor of world opinion. Mr Rowlands' report will be awaited with interest.

Deciding what is newsworthy

From Mr Maurice Cheesewright

Sir, In my days as a reporter and foreign correspondent we lived by the ethic that "we only report the news" and took pride in making sure that what we wrote was accurate, conceded nothing to fear or favour, and paid some regard to both sides in a conflict. We saw the news as being to a large extent self-selecting; when an issue came to a head in a single event of physical or verbal drama that made it news. As an editor, though with a somewhat wider view of the media's responsibilities, I think I still accepted this concept of "news".

Subsequent experience has persuaded me how dangerously inadequate it is, and the point is clinched I think by the fact that organizations of every kind—from churches and charities to Trotskyites and jettied persons—now deliberately order their actions with a view to gaining maximum attention in the media. So instead of spontaneous outbursts which might be said to indicate deep emotions or genuine indignation, we have situations that are deliberately contrived to manipulate the media. Everyone does it, not only those who can afford a PRO. And the trouble is that the advantage always seems to be with the aggressor, initiator, even when the press goes through the motions (as it almost invariably does) of consulting the aggrieved.

This leads me to the point that I think your previous correspondents have missed, or dodged, namely that even if it was once true that the news was by some indefinable but easily recognizable yardstick self-selecting it is no longer so. Therefore unless the journalist is doing a completely novel sort of his function it seems incapable that he should weigh carefully, not merely the superficial balance and accuracy of what he writes, but its context and consequences.

It is a most uncomfortable and perhaps inhibiting responsibility to lay upon his shoulders; one moreover which may appear to offer no commercial return (though I often think that we undervalue the critical faculties of the general public). Yet there are alternatives, other than regimentation or censorship.

MAURICE CHEESWRIGHT, Information and Publications Division, University of Birmingham, July 1.

Grunwick rates of pay

From Dr M. J. Bullivant

Sir, Professor Alan Day, writing in the *Times* of June 30, compares the Grunwick dispute, makes the comparison between Grunwick rates of pay and the national average rates for women and girls published by the Department of Employment. He uses the comparability of these two rates as a basis for his argument. Grunwick workers are not underpaid.

In drawing this conclusion he neglects to consider the possibility that the national average rates of pay for women and girls are themselves based on a "heavy sentence" which must be a reasonable rate of pay, particularly when the Professorial average in the same period was £9.48 per annum?

M. J. BULLIVANT, Chemistry Department, The Open University, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes.

Informing the workers

From Mr Philip Franklin

Sir, Mr Clive Jenkins really has a way of colouring fact to make it fiction. (Letters, June 24.)

His virulent rhetoric, or is it just the propaganda of a man who is just the company and management of IBM would be laughable were it not so insidiously libellous to the whole of the workforce of such a good company. A company, I might say, whose management has been the Bullock report recommendations for "worker-directors": the directors and management of IBM are workers.

When I really must take Mr Jenkins to task is when he tells me that I was forced to watch one of the two video-cassettes that the company made for the information of its employees. In a company where the workers are spread over the whole of the UK I can see no better way to disseminate information. Perhaps Mr Jenkins sees himself as a technological idiot, because he cannot control the medium through which information is so disseminated.

Are you ready for point one, Mr Jenkins? The viewing of both video-cassettes was purely voluntary. As for the length of the second cassette (perhaps Mr Jenkins is only used to the producer of argument that resides on the picket line and whose vocabulary runs out after five minutes) which was shown, the content became the dictator of time as the articulate and informed speakers set out the arguments for and against unionization.

Much of the material that was presented to us and which helped us in our determination to remain a non-union company was the very propaganda that Mr Jenkins put about in order to persuade us to join his union: to coerce, cajole, threaten and patronize is not the way to win hearts and minds.

Point two, Mr Jenkins: If you and your associates could learn as much about selling yourselves and your services as IBM knows about selling itself, you would find yourselves in our company.

Sir, may I say that until that event you will allow your columns to echo the fact that a 4.35 per cent of 13,000 in favour of a union is a profound defeat for Mr Jenkins and his like.

I am, Sir, yours sincerely, PHILIP FRANKLIN, IBM (UK) Ltd, 2 Warwick House, Station Road, Kenilworth, Warwickshire.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reforming the House of Lords

From Lord Gage

Sir, As a Conservative hereditary peer, I no doubt merit all those charges of being prejudiced, ignorant and now I suppose geriatric, that have been accorded to my kind ever since I succeeded to the House of Lords over 55 years ago. I have sometimes wondered whether any body of legislators anywhere have ever been subjected to this sort of thing for so long without apparent result, with the exception of course there have been numerous discussions, often very long ones, about possible schemes for reform, but none of these have received enough support as to constitute a scheme to put before the electorate.

I reflect that it was during such a discussion in 1946 that a phrase was coined by the Labour Government of the day which has coloured the situation ever since. Lord Morrison of Lambeth, who was in 1946 Lord President of the Council in his book *Constitution and Politics*, published in 1956, put it in these words: "The very irrationality of the composition of the House of Lords and its qualities as safeguards for our modern British Democracy. And so we continue, quaint but pursuing."

Mr Morrison, as he was then, saw clearly something which eventually became clear to anyone who sought to invent a new second chamber for this country, in that the House tends either to be so weak that nobody who is any good would wish to join it, or so strong that it would menace the House of Commons, and possibly some form of proportional representation, as well as Lords reform on the programme, will have plenty of constitutional problems to think about at the next election.

But if the House's very modest intervention was intolerable, continued intervention by an elected

House would make the Government's position quite impossible. Unless, that is, we had a written Constitution. In fact if we are to have a logical second chamber it must have, as Lord Hailsham has recently pointed out, a written Constitution. But that raises formidable questions as to who to write it and how it is to be agreed to. It is because of these difficulties, that are so formidable, that the present House has continued for so long.

In point of fact, the present situation is rather more logical than it might appear at first sight to be, because the quaintness of our Constitution makes it possible for us to intervene only when we think that we are more in sympathy with public opinion than is the alleged representative chamber. We can only intervene when we can see to the Government, in the words King Charles II addressed to his brother, "No man in England will kill me, to make you King."

This situation does occasionally arise. Proposals for abolishing rather than reforming the House give rise to rather different but even further objections. If I were asked what ought to happen, I should, I suppose, vote for the Hailsham written Constitution. But if I were asked my opinion as to what would happen, I can only say: "About what happens, my father told me that I should never have a seat in the House of Lords. I have now been there longer than anyone else. So I really don't know."

In any case the electorate with its various and possibly some form of proportional representation, as well as Lords reform on the programme, will have plenty of constitutional problems to think about at the next election.

Your obedient servant, GAGE, Place, Lewes, Sussex, July 1.

loathsome of violent crimes in that it violates not merely the body but the personality of the victim. There may even be a few academics like me who not only share that view but look with distaste upon the manner in which rape and other serious sexual offences have increased while the number of their perpetrators actually goes down. It may well be a case of *O tempora, O mores*.

It may be argued that long sentences will do no good by way of rehabilitation, and sentences ought not to be a reflection of moral outrage. Yet the deterrent effect of sentences of deterrence and the protection of the public. Holdsworth was not, of course, convicted of rape but of causing grievous bodily harm and indecent assault. Having spent many years in the study of criminal law, I have been struck by the facts given in the transcript is that the nature of the assault, its perverted violence and its apparently frenzied character, are so similar to the features of other sexual assaults which have ended in the death of the victim. In this context it seems strange that the court which passed the original sentence should have considered this a case for a minimum sentence of three years.

For a number of years this film some years ago, in the company of my mother. At one moment, soldiers are seen fighting and dying in a bedroom, in the last house before the bedroom. This was my mother's bedroom. She attended Lady Van Limburg Stirum's "Klein Tadmor" school.

As most instances in this recent film have been inspired by reality, I must assume that the lady who is seen being assaulted is a real person. I am, dear Sir, your most humble and obedient servant, E. A. R. SWITZER, Pinner Aerodrome, 103bs, 1074 Pinner Aerodrome, Pinner, Middlesex, July 6.

Ice cream in Germany From Miss Susan Moore Sir, I would like to point out to Mr Spike Hughes (letter, June 28) that Germans do not call ice-cream *Geiforene* (the suggestion caused a handful of them considerable puzzlement). They simply call it *Eis*, or occasionally *Eiscrem*. Yours faithfully, SUSAN MOORE, 4000 Düsseldorf 12, Mühlenberg wsg 24.

The use of 'Chinaman' From Mr Y. S. Chen Sir, Please allow me to express my doubts on what Mr David Jones wrote in his letter today (July 5) that much of the word 'Chinaman' has disappeared from the vocabulary. He may be right. 'Chinaman' merely as a native of China in his dictionary, but to most of the educated Chinese it is still an offensive word and does not wish to be called.

What appears to be true is that you don't hear young children on the street shouting at Chinese people 'Chin, Chin, Chinaman' today as they did frequently when I first came to this country forty years ago. Perhaps Mr Enoch Powell will take note of this. Yours faithfully, Y. S. CHEN, Reform Club, Pall Mall, SW1, July 5.

Reducing television hours

From Mr J. F. O'Neill

Sir, Reports that commercial television plans for "breakfast viewing" have been shelved after the seemingly abject results of a nine week experiment in the Yorkshire and Tyne Tees areas (audiences sometimes as low as 100,000 are alleged), should not really surprise us. Let's face it, television viewing is probably Britain's number one pastime and rightly so, for nothing gives better value for money, but against all evidence to the contrary I believe we are infinitely more choosy, and certainly less inclined to accept trivialities than our American cousins for whom almost round the clock programmes are commonplace.

When my company recently conducted a definitive survey into the nation's viewing habits and asked viewers if they would accept a cut in television hours on all channels if this would stop the licence fee going up, there was an overwhelming "yes" from no fewer than 86 per cent of those questioned. When asked at what time of the day they would accept a two hour cut to keep the licence fee steady, 23 per cent opted for "late night", i.e. after 11.00 pm, 22 per cent for "before noon" and 21 per cent for the afternoon. A surprising 16 per cent said they would accept cuts between 6.00 pm and 11.00 pm if this would do the trick!

Though the vote obviously indicates that viewers feel they are paying enough already and would do anything rather than pay more for a licence, I believe it also reflects the fact that they prefer quality in their programmes. A constant diet of repeats, second rate ideas, old films and factory belt American film series are obviously taking their toll. Except for rare occasions like Jubilee Day there must be a limit to the hours during which can be attracted and it may be that viewers would rather have really first class programmes over a shorter period than have them spread widely and interspersed with the second rate. If this were the case, the Government should sanction a slight increase in advertising time allowed per hour to compensate for any loss of programme hours, I believe viewers would accept this readily as a means to an end.

Yours faithfully, J. F. O'NEILL, Marketing Director, Pye Limited, PO Box 49, Cambridge Road, Cambridge, July 1.

'A Bridge Too Far' From Mr E. A. R. Switzer Sir, I quite agree with Mr Warrack's opinion (Letters, July 2) on *A Bridge Too Far*: the public seems deluged into thinking that a conscientious re-creation of an historic event has been made.

It should perhaps not be forgotten that a documentary film was made during the battle of September, 1944, in the company of my mother. At one moment, soldiers are seen fighting and dying in a bedroom, in the last house before the bedroom. This was my mother's bedroom. She attended Lady Van Limburg Stirum's "Klein Tadmor" school.

As most instances in this recent film have been inspired by reality, I must assume that the lady who is seen being assaulted is a real person. I am, dear Sir, your most humble and obedient servant, E. A. R. SWITZER, Pinner Aerodrome, 103bs, 1074 Pinner Aerodrome, Pinner, Middlesex, July 6.

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From Mr D. R. Forrester Sir, While I am unable to join Mr Peggrevy-Johnson's "77" Club, it was interesting to note that at noon today the *Financial Times* Index was down 7.7.

Yours faithfully, D. R. FORRESTER, The Stock Exchange, EC2, July 7.

Israel and torture From Mr Peter Kellner Sir, Your report today (July 8) from Gaza by Mr Bernard Edinger of Reuters raises some interesting points concerning our article on June 19, "Israel and Torture".

Some of the allegations he heard from Palestinian prisoners about Israeli interrogation techniques are similar to allegations we found in complaints that prisoners were beaten, or made to stand against a wall while they were hooded, or left manacled naked. Mr Edinger also says, however, that none claimed to have been electrically tortured.

This is not in the least surprising. Gaza, as your report observed, has been relatively quiet since 1971, and the allegations we heard of the most severe forms of ill-treatment and torture since then have come almost entirely from West Bank, not Gaza, Arabs. (This should be evident from the cases we cited in our original article.)

In the light of this it is perhaps significant that in Mr Edinger's words, "I did not choose Gaza for the visit; the Israeli authorities did".

Yours faithfully, PETER KELLNER, Editor, *Insight*, The Sunday Times, 200 Gray's Inn Road, WC1.

The 7-7-77 index From Mr D. R. Forrester Sir, While I am unable to join Mr Peggrevy-Johnson's "77" Club, it was interesting to note that at noon today the *Financial Times* Index was down 7.7.

EDITED BY MARGARET STONE

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

A little harder on pay deal belief

For the moment, at least, the Government holds some credibility in the Stock Exchange.

Dealers clung to a belief that some form of pay deal, will eventually be cobbled together and the market as a whole turned a little harder at the end of a shapely account. By curious contrast, sentiment was also helped by the Conservative "runaway victory" in the South-West election.

Glit-edges securities responded and the long end of the list showed a gain of 1 1/2 and as much as 1 were recorded in some stocks.

The FT Index ended a solemn week with a 2.3 rise to 443.7

There is nothing like a silly season to set the thought of what the next glamour stocks will be. Now that we know about the North Sea and body-scanners, what, some ask, about fibre optics? This refers to the carrying of thousands of messages by the existing shares climbed 8p to 92p and the partly-paid shares progressed 6p to 57p for a 36p premium on the offer price.

Elsewhere in oil, Shell put but trading was described as a more tricky and most prices edged ahead by only a penny or two where changed.

BP came in for criticism and favour as the existing shares climbed 8p to 92p and the partly-paid shares progressed 6p to 57p for a 36p premium on the offer price.

Elsewhere in oil, Shell put

on 2p to 55p in consideration of the petrol price cuts and its effect on sales volume. Tricentrol added 2 1/2p to 105p.

Attok added 4p to 105p, prompted by 2 1/2p and helped by the recovery and involvement in the Pakistan project. The London & Scottish Machine Oil production stocks were unchanged at 32p. Small applicants for up to 300 shares face a ballot which, if they are successful, will lead to an allocation of 100 shares.

Sotheby Parke Bernet, the other major market newcomer, enjoyed another day of strong demand. With a rise of 1 1/2p to 169 1/2p the price is around half-way towards what dealers had anticipated would be the opening premium.

On the leader pitch, ICI climbed 2p to 400p, Glaxo added 3p to 53p, Lucas went 4p better to 51p and the 100 shares of the new company, Turner & Newall gained 3p to 180p. Thorn "A" were barely changed after

slightly better-than-expected profits.

Consideration of an optimistic annual report published earlier on Thursday helped John Brown up by 5p to 209p, while further satisfaction with the recovery and prospects at English Car. Clothing added 5p to a peak for the year of 61p.

Butterfield-Harvey added 2 1/2p to 60 1/2p, another stock riding high in 1977, in the face of the approach from Babcock and Wilcox, while Fodens climbed 4p to 55p as the deadline for the Rolls-Royce bid came into view.

The announcement of a merger between two trusts in the Electra House group stable helped both Cable Investments and Globe to advance 5p to 130p and 93p respectively.

Elsewhere on the takeover scene, the higher terms from North East motor distributor, T. Cowie, worth 30p per share in cash and paper, put Colmore Investments 3p higher at 28p.

Company Sales
Int of (F) 5.0(5.3)
Caird (F) 1.1(1.2)
Caird Int Trst (I) 1.1(1.2)
Corcoran (I) 2.2(1.9)
Globe Int (F) 7.6(6.7)
Hallen (F) 12.8(12.6)
Ind News (I) 9.4(1.1)
W. J. Pyke (I) 3.0(1.2)
Tyneside Int (F) 1.0(1.1)
Symbiosis (F) 1.6(1.8)
Thorn Elec (F) 1.03(1.845.1)
Tyneside Int (F) 1.0(1.1)
Tyneside Int (F) 1.0(1.1)
Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News, dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.54. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. * Loss. † To reduce disparity. ‡ Forecast.

Latest results
Profits Earnings Div
Nil (0.01) 2.2(1.9) 1.0(1.0)
0.21(0.01) 2.2(1.9) 1.0(1.0)
0.10(0.09) 2.2(1.9) 1.0(1.0)
6.5(5.7) 4.46(3.91) 2.6(2.4)
Nil (0.01) 2.2(1.9) 1.0(1.0)
0.81(0.57) 0.78(2.09) 0.51(0.82)
0.06(0.016) 0.78(2.09) 0.51(0.82)
1.08(1.11) 0.78(2.09) 0.51(0.82)
0.20(0.28) 0.78(2.09) 0.51(0.82)
103.6(74.4) 37.0(28.2) 4.35(3.96)
0.25(0.24) 1.0(1.0) 0.5(0.5)
Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News, dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.54. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. * Loss. † To reduce disparity. ‡ Forecast.

Thorn at £104m and still better to come

By John Brennan

Thorn Electrical Industries, the country's largest television rental and manufacturing group, produced pre-tax profits 39 per cent higher at £103.7m last year. Reported results for the year to the end of March, Sir Richard Cave, who succeeded the group's founder, Sir Julian Thorn, as chairman last year, commented yesterday that "Thorn would continue to achieve considerably better results than the industry generally".

Sir Richard was, however, unwilling to make a firm profit forecast for the current year because of the uncertainty of the current economic and political climate. In the absence of a forecast, Thorn's shares, which are due to gain following right after the year, slipped 2p to 306p, a loss of 10p on the week.

Thorn's turnover in the year increased by £194m to £1,039m although demand for consumer durable goods was "only moderate" over the year, a spokesman said. The effect of public sector spending cuts are being felt, particularly in the lighting and engineering sides. The TV rental companies had a good year with a marked increase in the number of colour TV customers.

Over-production world-wide of consumer electrical goods clipped profits in European markets. But at home and in other export markets, the group achieved a marginal increase in profitability. AWA-Thorn, the jointly-owned Australian subsidiary, provided much of the momentum behind overseas sales growth on the strength of rapid expansion in demand there for colour televisions.

Capital expenditure amounted to £124.2m last year, £89.7m of which was spent on new television sets for rental, the balance being used for fixed assets. The pre-tax charge was about £28.2p, based on a charge on sets for rental, fixed asset depreciation of £17.3m and £7.2m financing charges. A £51.6m charge leaves £49.5m attributable to shareholders and earnings per share up from 28.2p to 32.5p.

Earnings provide over five times cover for dividends, increased by 10.1p per share gross. At that rate the "A" shares now give a dividend yield of 3.3 per cent.

The board has been seeking a financial partner for its activities in Pakistan, AO's main sphere of activity, and this agreement is the answer. Mr. Anthony de Boer, the Attock chairman, says that after the transaction, the capital of AO will be increased to that Attock should wind-up with an interest of about 25 per cent.

The group plans to use the funds generated by the deal for a redeployment in the United Kingdom oil industry and in other areas. Mr. de Boer tells shareholders in his annual report that the transaction allows the group to view the future with much more confidence. He hopes that the group will shortly be participating in a well-known oil and gas venture in Scotland and also to report other new developments.

The temporary suspension is required as the group's assets will consist substantially of cash until a more permanent investment of the money from the agreement is made.

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Cable-Globe to link up in new £250m trust

By Alison Mitchell

Two of Britain's largest investment trust companies, Cable Trust and Globe Investment Trust, have announced details of their proposed merger.

Although the possibility of a marriage was first mooted in January, the actual terms of the union were enough to please the shareholders. Cable finished the day 6 1/2p higher at 130p, while Globe rose 8p to 93p, only a few pence under the year's high of 96p.

Combining the holdings of both companies would give the new Cable-Globe trust a portfolio worth more than £250m at current prices, with about a third attributable to foreign securities.

The elimination of the cross-holdings combined with the consolidation of the two trusts will increase the net assets and earnings attributable to stockholders. Because Globe has a 33 per cent stake in Cable against a 20.4 per cent Cable holding in Globe, holders of Globe stock will benefit to a greater extent. The increase in net asset value for Globe stockholders would be 19.7 per cent and for Cable stockholders 12.6 per cent, based on the current value of both companies at March 31 last, while the rise in net earnings would have been 13.2 per cent and 10.3 per cent respectively.

Under the new proposals, holders of Cable ordinary stock will receive seven units of Globe ordinary for every five Cable shares. The new Cable-Globe trust will be a public company, with a number of associated companies, including Electra Investments, will become subsidiaries of Globe.

In the year to March 31 last, Globe increased earnings after tax by almost 14 per cent to £42m. Net assets have been valued at £108.5m, giving a net asset value of 115p, against a previous 107p.

The directors are to pay a second interim of 4.0p gross raising the total for the year to 5.31p compared with 5.15p.

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ICL bring out share option scheme for staff

By Victor Felstead

Employees of ICL, the computer group, may soon be able to buy a stake in the company through a share option scheme. ICL is asking shareholders to approve the scheme under which employees will be granted options to subscribe for shares if they commit themselves to regular savings plans. An extraordinary meeting will be held on August 11.

Employees in the United Kingdom will commit themselves to saving contracts if the scheme is approved and will be able to decide whether to subscribe for shares when their options become exercisable.

A maximum of 2.5 million ordinary £1 shares—71 per cent of the issued capital—will be granted under the proposed scheme. The savings contract will allow all employees to subscribe for shares. If any future share option or acquisition schemes for employees are introduced, the limit will be 3.3 million shares, or 10 per cent of the capital. The savings contract must be approved by the shareholders. Initially, the scheme will be available to employees of ICL in the United Kingdom or the Halifax or with the Department for National Savings.

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Prices tended a little firmer in a quiet after-hours session and many leaders went better. The market closed too early to reflect the higher terms of 125p per share from the Saudis for Concrete, where Bryant Holdings is expected to take a substantial profit on its 28 per cent holding.

The option market was a little quieter than of late and, in short fortnightly contracts, only a call was produced in BP new

As the shadow of a price freeze on beer lengths, it is good to know that Bass Charrington is working on a strong, low-calorie beer which could exploit a market where Pils is perhaps best known. Bass has a 25 per cent share in the Pils market and has already raised some prices. There are also hopes that Bass will this year avoid wine stock provisions and exchange losses. The shares are now 117p.

Shares and there were no puts or doubles. Prominent calls over three months included Tricentrol, Turner & Newall, Dunlop and Berry Wiggins. Doubles were completed in Viking Oil, BP New and Lonrho. Equity turnover on July 7 was £77.50m (17,274 bargains). Active stocks, according to Exchange Telegraph, yesterday were ICI, BAT Inds, BAT Dtd, Sotheby, BP, BP New, Shell, Dunlop, Hawker Siddeley, Imperial Group, Tricentrol, Commercial Union and RTZ.

Foreign Exchange
The dollar virtually erased earlier gains yesterday as operators took short positions in the currency ahead of the week-end, dealers said. Speculation that the mark could strengthen towards £2.200000, the dollar from its present £0.00717, near week reversed an earlier dollar advance on profit taking and book squaring after its recent sharp fall.

The Spanish peseta, used in nervous trading as operators became reluctant to hold the denaturation fund. The peso closed in London around 160.10-15 against the dollar. Sterling closed four points to £1.7516 in quiet trading, but the Bank of England was believed to have supported the currency at the previous close. The effective rate was unchanged at 60.9.

Gold gained 50.50 an ounce to close in London at \$142.125.

Spot Position
of Sterling
Market rates
New York 1.7516-17
London 1.7516-17
Frankfurt 1.7516-17
Paris 1.7516-17
Brussels 1.7516-17
Amsterdam 1.7516-17
Zurich 1.7516-17
Geneva 1.7516-17
Basel 1.7516-17
Bern 1.7516-17
Lucerne 1.7516-17
St. Gallen 1.7516-17
Schaffhausen 1.7516-17
Appenzel A. 1.7516-17
Appenzel G. 1.7516-17
Valais 1.7516-17
Vaud 1.7516-17
Neuchâtel 1.7516-17
Jura 1.7516-17
Fribourg 1.7516-17
Basle-St. 1.7516-17
Basle-City 1.7516-17
Basle-Lands 1.7516-17
Basle-Nestlé 1.7516-17
Basle-Migros 1.7516-17
Basle-Rosner 1.7516-17
Basle-Suter 1.7516-17
Basle-Tobler 1.7516-17
Basle-Widmer 1.7516-17
Basle-Zimmer 1.7516-17
Basle-Brugg 1.7516-17
Basle-König 1.7516-17
Basle-Müller 1.7516-17
Basle-Peter 1.7516-17
Basle-Schmid 1.7516-17
Basle-Steiner 1.7516-17
Basle-Weber 1.7516-17
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Basle-Müller 1.7516-17
Basle-Peter 1.7516-17
Basle-Schmid 1.7516-17
Basle-Steiner 1.7516-17

MARKET REPORTS

COPPER was steady. Afternoon—Cash price, 77.50-78.00. Three months, 77.50-78.00. Six months, 77.50-78.00. Silver was quiet. Afternoon—Cash price, 17.50-17.75. Three months, 17.50-17.75. Six months, 17.50-17.75. Tin was quiet. Afternoon—Cash price, 2,250-2,275. Three months, 2,250-2,275. Six months, 2,250-2,275. Lead was steady. Afternoon—Cash price, 23.50-23.75. Three months, 23.50-23.75. Six months, 23.50-23.75. Zinc was steady. Afternoon—Cash price, 23.50-23.75. Three months, 23.50-23.75. Six months, 23.50-23.75. Nickel was steady. Afternoon—Cash price, 23.50-23.75. Three months, 23.50-23.75. Six months, 23.50-23.75. Platinum was steady. Afternoon—Cash price, 23.50-23.75. Three months, 23.50-23.75. Six months, 23.50-23.75. Gold was steady. Afternoon—Cash price, 23.50-23.75. Three months, 23.50-23.75. Six months, 23.50-23.75.

Commodities

14.30. Dec. 21.95-22.10. March 22.40-22.55. May 22.90-23.05. July 23.40-23.55. Sept. 23.90-24.05. Nov. 24.40-24.55. Jan. 24.90-25.05. Mar. 25.40-25.55. May 25.90-26.05. July 26.40-26.55. Sept. 26.90-27.05. Nov. 27.40-27.55. Jan. 27.90-28.05. Mar. 28.40-28.55. May 28.90-29.05. July 29.40-29.55. Sept. 29.90-30.05. Nov. 30.40-30.55. Jan. 30.90-31.05. Mar. 31.40-31.55. May 31.90-32.05. July 32.40-32.55. Sept. 32.90-33.05. Nov. 33.40-33.55. Jan. 33.90-34.05. Mar. 34.40-34.55. May 34.90-35.05. July 35.40-35.55. Sept. 35.90-36.05. Nov. 36.40-36.55. Jan. 36.90-37.05. Mar. 37.40-37.55. May 37.90-38.05. July 38.40-38.55. Sept. 38.90-39.05. Nov. 39.40-39.55. Jan. 39.90-40.05. Mar. 40.40-40.55. May 40.90-41.05. July 41.40-41.55. Sept. 41.90-42.05. Nov. 42.40-42.55. Jan. 42.90-43.05. Mar. 43.40-43.55. May 43.90-44.05. July 44.40-44.55. Sept. 44.90-45.05. Nov. 45.40-45.55. Jan. 45.90-46.05. Mar. 46.40-46.55. May 46.90-47.05. July 47.40-47.55. Sept. 47.90-48.05. Nov. 48.40-48.55. Jan. 48.90-49.05. 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May 103.90-104.05. July 104.40-104.55. Sept. 104.90-105.05. Nov. 105.40-105.55. Jan. 105.90-106.05. Mar. 106.40-106.55. May 106.90-107.05. July 107.40-107.55. Sept. 107.90-108.05. Nov. 108.40-108.55. Jan. 108.90-109.05. Mar. 109.40-109.55. May 109.90-110.05. July 110.40-110.55. Sept. 110.90-111.05. Nov. 111.40-111.55. Jan. 111.90-112.05. Mar. 112.40-112.55. May 112.90-113.05. July 113.40-113.55. Sept. 113.90-114.05. Nov. 114.40-114.55. Jan. 114.90-115.05. Mar. 115.40-115.55. May 115.90-116.05. July 116.40-116.55. Sept. 116.90-117.05. Nov. 117.40-117.55. Jan. 117.90-118.05. Mar. 118.40-118.55. May 118.90-119.05. July 119.40-119.55. Sept. 119.90-120.05. Nov. 120.40-120.55. Jan. 120.90-121.05. Mar. 121.40-121.55. May 121.90-122.05. July 122.40-122.55. Sept. 122.90-123.05. Nov. 123.40-123.55. Jan. 123.90-124.05. Mar. 124.40-124.55. May 124.90-125.05. July 125.40-125.55. Sept. 125.90-126.05. Nov. 126.40-126.55. Jan. 126.90-127.05. Mar. 127.40-127.55. May 127.90-128.05. July 128.40-128.55. 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A simple line drawing of a building. It has a chimney on the left side of the roof and a clock tower on the right side. The building has several windows. The drawing is done in a sketchy, hand-drawn style.

House can sell
 Mack is finding people interested in property. And that's what he needs you.

machines about and I could list many people who still love their valiant Indesit after years and years.

However, it is worth discussing your needs with a good retailer before making the plunge. A cheap machine in the long run is not always a large family and are washing every day. With few exceptions, retailers are ill-equipped to advise but it is worth testing one down and asking for the name of a good machine. For heavy clothes, get heavy (in the engineering sense) machines—in London I would always go to Kenneth Pipe of The Dishwasher Centre because he has the subject under his belt, backwards besides giving advice, and most willing to service one can find today (at 357, Pembroke Road, London SW1). There have to be others in other towns and cities but I am afraid one needs a live contact to investigate so I can only suggest calling at a number of stores and shops to find out

for yourself who knows the subject best. Most of the better-known names are reliable because they normally try to redress after-sales problems—Hoover, Philips, Crela, GEC, Thörn, Hotpoint and suchlike are among the good brands in the electrical appliance category (not all do everything, of course) and there are others. Miela appliances are marvellous and I have had complete satisfaction with Bosch. I think the best way is to find what you want, then to talk at length with the retailer and be prepared to spend a little more than you had hoped to pay.

We have tried our one large washing machine in the medium price range and the one in the lower range. The former is a German machine it is good looking, compact and fast, and because Serax are one of the oldest established British washing machine manufacturers they have employed sturdy business with rather less advertising and publicity than the rest of them.



did 500). The Servis Electronic has the usual bio-wash button which really does a fantastic job with biological washing powders on stained tea towels and ovenalls or tablecloths.

Jackie reckons light rights are essential to scary people like her and she might even like a built-in "plunger". Because of children looking

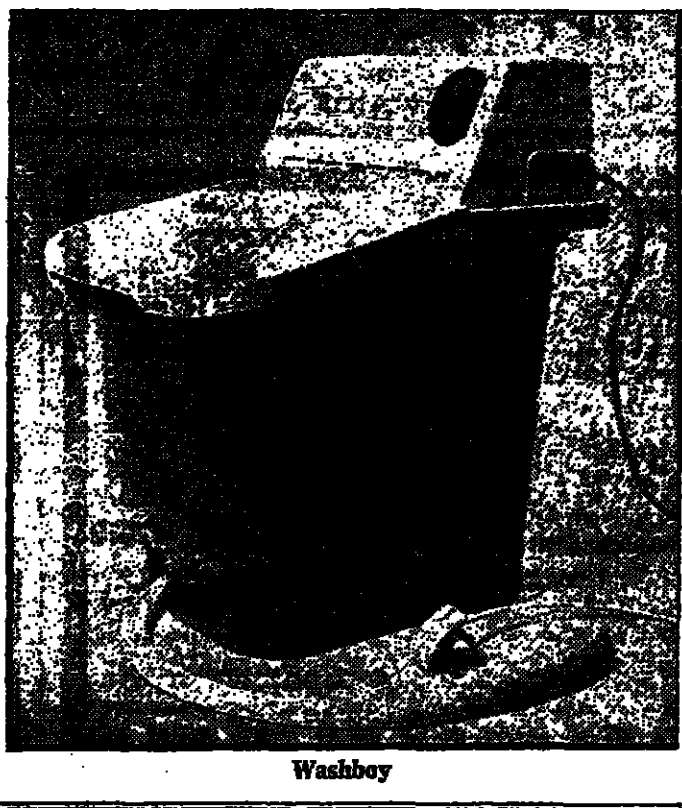
designed to be light enough to carry large cardboard boxes, tough enough to stand firmly while it works, and agitates the washing well. You can load it with only one sheet at a time, because, obviously, bulky things would march it around the tub, while it has other, smaller objects besides the sheet. As to service, you can send back the whole machine assembly for repair or replacement and the dual postage is cheaper than calling an engineer.

Margaret gives its performance a high mark and finds it absolutely marvellous for a woman with two adult daughters who are always wanting to wash jeans or shirts in a hurry. In her family, there are more shirts, sweaters, and slacks than machine than for the larger cabinet into which a weekly family wash is loaded—such a machine would be very wasteful as it is often only half full for a week. Margaret says it is just that pair of clean jeans comes along.

manages ideas what a tumble-dryer was and therefore could not possibly give helpful decisions on whether or not they would buy one. On a hunch, Creds earned it and the sales go on and on and on and on. As one of their salesmen told me, occasional re-tooling, small corners of the factory, modernization of design and performance and there you have a winner while the bigger, expensive appliances all round it are running their tusts up.

There are many other reasons as much as for its efficiency, the Creds Compact 3 Tumble Dryer is the one. It holds 6.5lb of dry-weight clothes yet measures a mere 20½ in wide by 18½ in deep by 34½ in high. It hangs as well as tucked away beneath working surfaces. The price has doubled over the past 20 years or so and it is now around £79 but it is trouble-free. It is sold by Creds Electric, Rye, the Bridle, Staffordshire, and stocked almost everywhere.

While I do recommend your machines I have been wrong about, much of the object of the long discourse was to give you decisions on whether or not to purchase a machine and to give guidelines on how to choose your appliance at all. Knowing and giving quite honest about your business and your customers is never buy a machine until you are quite clear as to what you want and expect from it. That may sound nice and obvious but, oh, the number of people who say too late that they would have bought something if only they had known or thought, etc. It also pays to look forward. If present or likely to become a set, get a larger machine in advance and work out how to find the space for it. Refrigerators could always live in dining rooms or hallways, in kitchen passages or such places and some are wood covered to blend in with the decor. And remember the retailers can really only help if they are told exactly your needs.



Jackie tried this after having previously lived with fully automatic washers. She found it was by comparison with earlier models. For someone who is at home for long periods, speed is not so important, but if you are doing some kind of work daily or on most days, it is necessary to get the washing out of the house as soon as possible. Stay-at-homes do not need to worry because they can get on with so many other jobs while the washing does its job. This is something many people fail to take into account when they complain of the time involved. "The time" is actually mainly the time involved for the labour of input, output, sorting and finishing—unless you solve the problem of fitting the job in before leaving home or after getting back at night. Jackie was delighted with a mere 45 minutes for her coloureds compared with 12 hours on a previous machine which for whites in a hot wash, was "just a joke" because it took so long. Jackie because her skin is sensitive to dyes, she has limited dyeing facilities, she likes the extra spin at 900 revolutions a minute (her domestic machine

doors are always essential and most machines certainly have these. But she likes the extra action on the Servis, of having to give the handle an extra downward before it can be opened.

She welcomes, too, the ability of modern machines to offer merely rinse and dry programmes for clothes that have been prewashed by hand. "I don't like to use the extra button," she is pushed to cancel the programme originally selected, so a change from Number 5 to Number 3 takes seconds, Jackie finds it infinitely simpler than the stop-start routine, and she does, naturally, press the wrong button, as we all do.

She did need to call for service soon after installation and found it within 24 hours. She found the service quick, courteous and efficient and it is worth remembering that in the past she was doing a trip on the machine. There are 28 service departments in Britain employing more than 800 trained engineers and, joy of joys, they carry large stocks of spares in their motor vehicles and workshop vans. "I am a very compact schemer to take over from the first year's guarantee—for myself I have always found it

undereaded, and it does not
shme about with bulky, heavy
things like blankets. It runs on
low-lather, suds-limited soap
of the new type which might damage it.
The machine has the usual pre-
wash, fast wash, rinse hold and
other attributes. It measures 22 1/2
inches wide by 33 1/2 inches high by
22 1/2 inches deep and costs around
\$350. Service is available from
the Washway King Ltd, Wash-
bury, West Midlands WS10 7TE
(telephone 01-526 3199).

Margaret has a London house
with an exceptionally large
kitchen but still finds space a
real problem. She and Sara,
who has a tiny infant and young
children, are infirm, and young
children than Margaret, tried out
the Washboy, from Tefal, Tefal
Housewares, Elgaten Ltd, Crow-
ther, Washington, Tyne and
Wear (telephone Washington
0462 24).

Tim Washboy, said Margaret,
is basically plastic bucket
and at first she thought it
rather oddly at £39/50 for
the model that takes a 3lb
dozed or £45 for the 3 1/2 size.
Plastic it may be but it is of
rough, non-slick plastic.
The bucket is double-insulated
Polypropylene and, after all,
this particular "plastic bucket"
has durable working parts, is

It uses very little water, is kind to fabrics and measures 15in wide by 15in deep by 15in high when fully opened up for use. It can be more or less dismantled, easily, for storage. The bigger model is 15in wide by 19in deep by 15in high. Mark you, Margaret still thinks it is far from cheap but it is, especially in London.

Stocks from Telford, Crowther Industrial Estate, Washington, Tyne and Wear, Housewares, Rivermead, Oxford Road, Uxbridge (Uxbridge 5672). At most branches of the Coop, especially in London.

For the best quality goods stores in the United Dryage Stores Group, and so on.

The tumbler dryer has, over many, many years of ups and downs for washing machines and other domestic appliances, been the cynosure, steadily selling profitably. The best-selling in the fifties, one firm had a massive and expensive survey done to see if it was worth bringing the tumbler-dryer to Britain. The questioned housewives were unanimous about its benefits and the conclusion was decided not to add to the range. Creda looked at the research, decided that none of the women questioned had the



Was

A high-contrast, black and white photograph of a dark, textured surface, possibly a book cover or a piece of fabric. A bright, vertical light source is visible on the left side, creating a strong highlight and casting the rest of the surface into deep shadow. The texture appears grainy and uneven.

■ MirrorWall self-adhesive mirror tiles, available from the **Building Centre, Store Street, London WC2E 8RF**, and the **Design Council** deservedly found a place in the **mirror glass** category.

Made from British float glass, the tiles are precision cut to a smooth, polished edge so that they are a thing in the world—peel off a tile and you will find a range from $\frac{1}{4}$ in square to 12in square can be varied. I like the clean, simple look. It expands the size of a room and makes spaces there are and lighter. The pale grey and paler brown tiles look dirty and which makes them dazzling. About £1 per square foot for tins.

Think of designs in which the tiles such as archways above the door, a huge bathroom with light and dark—the adhesive is not sensitive to moisture. Think of columns in a living room, mirrored areas, especially if you have garden or trees to create a sense of freshness indoors, but remember to reflect bare, dug earth or ugly things along.

The same company sells self-adhesive wall at about £3.50 retail for 24-inch sizes. See them and get a display at the **Building Centre**.

error is now on display at the
and has been accepted by the
the clarity and quality of the
glass and copper backed, the
ground to exact size, leaving
it fixing becomes the simplest
the backing and stick. Sizes
t by 154in so that the effect
r mirror, which undoubtedly
y reflecting what wide open
ing dark corners. But I love
e tints which somehow never
e not to be overbright and
foot for the clear and £1.50

to put the mirror walling,
ath to give the impression of
e space above the bath itself
ive to temperature changes.
r room or bedroom to flank
the reflection can be of the
n impression of space and
ber that you do not want to
branches when winter comes

ular mirrors to hang on the
the 17-inch and £6.50 for the
stockists from Garfield Glass
tre or write to MirrorWall,
n, Glasgow, V. J. 3. 2122

I would like readers to consider a couple of projects. First, I want to try out toys in good Christmas shopping and to give reports, at first hand or via their own time they go back to the Christmas season term.

We want a boy and a girl in a group. That is a pair between two and two five; five and seven; and nine; and a fourth pair between and twelve.

Every entrant must be prepared to say out as he or she would like it and then let me know why it should not be this or that. I should not meet at The Times and ask you are usually pleased or

with your Christmas
100 words will do b
you wish. I shall c
good replies that I
opened on the same
The winners will
advance copy of a
catalogue and will be
choices in each of t
shall obtain advance
toys or of as many
for the summer ho
gifts under \$5 and
category. Depending
we might send along
next Christmas for
the summer proj
Please send me yo

resents—just about to do, write more if those the first eight men and all will be set, July 23.

Each receive an envelope's Christmas asked to make three to price ranges. We prototypes of the as we can in time says. We shall want a money-on object on how things go, some more ideas on traditions.

For adults, major complaints

about education shall want to publishments as I want to build many customers. About time, but pleasure say what complaints complaint seems to help personally get an if you express

and stores, knowing that I
to double-check the stories and
replies from store manage-
-ers as complaints from shoppers.
I know about unkept promises,
sting, reluctance to satisfy
poor deliveries, anything
trouble with accounts, waste of
anything else you can think of
the mildly reasonable and please
you think should happen in each
case. I get as many unfounded
as worthwhile ones and it
me that we can help the stores
just a little. Letters to me
The more knowledge but shorter skirt
at the impossible from retailers.

My washing and sewing tests show that they are self-adhesive and that they work on all types of machines and hot irons will not damage them.

Already used in schools, for which they are now being sold at 5p each, the nametapes are available in five days as long as the Post Office is open. There is plenty of time to be taken for the Summer camp. Send the nametapes, with your £1.04, to Wembley, Middlesex.

is have been trying nametapes
lick on so firmly that mere
t move them.

se services, hospitals and so
by mail at 95p per set of 50
Furthermore, delivery is a mere
Office is working normally so
eady for the Autumn term or
ne you want, in clear capital
Permark, 1 Station Grove

At this point it bauld over to Shirley to write about why she chose the Pfaff sewing machine and, as with washing machines, I hope her report also gives pointers and guidance on how and why you choose which particular machine. My own experience required only to cope with machine, hem, seams and suchlike, is cheap, plain and simple with few attachments. But it would never do for Shirley, as you will see.

From early days," she says, "I have made many of my own clothes using my mother's basic Singer with a handy on-the-wheel and, later, a treadle. I had a few more fancy machines from the age of 17. I was making skirts for a very busy boy friend and, when I married, he and I both decided that my wedding present should be the best sewing machine possible. I tried out many and varied types and found the Pfaff the most advanced, the most convenient to use and, to the great surprise of my husband, the best to use. Since then I've learned even more important things about it. The fine stitches even when were fine and straight.

hundreds of curtains and covers and other soft furnishings or cushion covers for foam pieces on beds, etc. In what I like to call my free time I make clothes for three children (now all in their teens) suits and silk suits for my husband, doves for my mother, and I do a great deal of darning and still the occasional thing for myself.

"My Pfaff has never, never let me down. About two years ago a friend borrowed it for some buttonholes, used it for some other clothes and immediately sold her own and bought one—she also has children, good friends, and a keen eye for good finish as well as pride in what she makes. I saw hers, noticed how many advances Pfaff had made, and thought it was time my 19-year-old Pfaff was a first class sewing machine and in a place, by a new one in my first home.

"Not being an idiot, I again tried out all the latest machines, knowing by now very clearly what I wanted, anything from time stitching on silk to heavy curtains and high speeds. I did not approach my trials as a Pfaff devotee, but it was the Pfaff I eventually chose. I make

the stability of wool but is fine - no fine. One can rarely find clothes of such fabrics inside the shops, anyway, at any price. My husband's silk shirts, evening or semi-formal, would probably be about £50 or £60 in the shops but I can do them for £7 to £12 in the fifth my home. My husband's shirts are made in the middle third, then 12 years ago. My husband wanted a bespoke suit (bespoke words) and got lovely flannel, an original design that appealed to his maturing mind, and a silk shirt - he chose a sleeveless suit with flannel top like a finished waistcoat to be worn with long-sleeved shirt in a patterned silk and no tie so a special collar had to be designed.

Not that it is all fine work - I can make a flash, lengthen, shorten, widen, baste and work on leather, all without the complex tool-setting of so many other machines. Well, if not complex, the changes are additional things to have to remember in a busy life. Since I often use two different fabrics of different thickness I like the Matchmaker which ensures equal feeding of the two parts.

There is another in mind. I

demanding industrial markets with their constant need for updated technology, less time and trouble on making, reliability and as few operations as possible. The 1222S is, I believe, the only domestic machine of this type in which material being gripped above and below to ensure pattern registration being continuously maintained once it has been set at the start.

It is particularly good on light and flimsy fabrics—particularly in contrast to other makes since its industrial percentage makes it equally good for heavy materials. There is now a fully portable Pfaff, to supplement the bigger ones. The new Compact still has many advantages over the compact competitors, but the market and has very simple push-button controls, a master diesel-switch to get the right stitch or combination thereof and automatic buttonholing. Widely stocked, easy to try out and with helpful after-sales advice service. Your stockists from Pfaff (Great Britain), 22 Croydon Street, Dromedary Street, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 1QR. (0532 333333.) Ladies and owners of other models

A high-contrast, black and white photograph of a large, rectangular, textured object, possibly a piece of machinery or a large container, with a dark, rectangular opening or slot visible on its side. The image is grainy and has a high level of contrast, with the object appearing as a bright, textured shape against a dark background. The opening is a dark, rectangular slot on the side of the object. The overall appearance is that of a technical or industrial photograph.

A high-contrast, black and white photograph of a large, rectangular, textured object, possibly a piece of machinery or a large container, with a dark, arched opening on the left side. The image is grainy and has a high level of contrast, with the object appearing as a bright, textured mass against a dark background. The arched opening on the left is a prominent feature, and the overall shape is roughly rectangular with some irregularities. The texture of the object's surface is highly detailed, showing many small, bright spots and shadows. The lighting is very harsh, creating deep shadows and bright highlights that emphasize the object's form and texture. The image has a vintage, almost abstract quality due to the extreme contrast and grain.

